

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 220490

62

ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MCT-01 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 DHA-02

/111 R

DRAFTED BY IO/HR:FJCRAWFORD:BKM

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R 042027Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 220490

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, GW

SUBJECT: FRG INITIATIVE REGARDING HOSTAGES

REF: (A) USUN 3441, (B) BONN 14303, (C) STATE 196812

1. DEPT HAS CAREFULLY EXAMINED DRAFT EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM AND ACCOMPANYING RESOLUTION WHICH FRG PLANS TO USE AT UNGA IN CONNECTION WITH ITS INITIATIVE ON HOSTAGES. TAKEN TOGETHER, BOTH DOCUMENTS PROVIDE A SUCCINCT STATEMENT OF THE HOSTAGE PROBLEM AND A REASONABLE COURSE OF ACTION TO TACKLE IT. WE HAVE NO LANGUAGE CHANGES TO SUGGEST. WHILE WE FULLY RECOGNIZE THE DIFFICULTIES
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PAGE 02 STATE 220490

INHERENT IN ANY DEBATE IN THE UNGA ON THIS TROUBLESOME

ISSUE (SEE REF. C), WE BELIEVE THE FRG PROPOSAL OFFERS POSSIBILITY OF ELICITING A NON-POLEMICAL DEBATE ON THE HOSTAGE PROBLEM AND CAN BE THE GENESIS OF EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ACTION.

2. ACCORDINGLY, USUN SHOULD INFORM THE FRG MISSION THAT OUR REACTION TO THEIR DRAFT TEXTS IS FAVORABLE AND THAT, ASSUMING TEXTS (REPORTED REF. A) REMAIN SUBSTANTIALLY UNCHANGED, WE ARE PREPARED TO CO-SPONSOR BOTH DOCUMENTS. USUN MIGHT GO ON TO COMMENT THAT WE ASSUME FRG'S NEXT STEP WILL BE TO COMPLETE ITS CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EC-9 AND

THAT AT THE CONCLUSION OF SUCH CONSULTATION THEY WILL HAVE OBTAINED FAIRLY WIDE CO-SPONSORSHIP ON THE PART OF THEIR PARTNERS IN THE NINE. WE WILL, OF COURSE, WANT TO LEARN OF ANY CHANGES EITHER IN THE DRAFT TEXTS OR IN THE FRG'S TACTICAL APPROACH TO THIS ISSUE. (WE ASSUME THAT FRG PLANS TO PROPOSE AN ADDITIONAL ITEM FOR GA AGENDA UNDER RULE 15 OF RULES OF PROCEDURE (OTHER THAN THE PRESENT ITEM 113 ON INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM), BUT SINCE EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM IS NOT EXPLICIT ON THIS POINT WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION FROM FRG MISSION.)

3. USUN SHOULD BE ALERT TO OTHER APPROACHES TO TERRORISM ISSUE WHICH MAY SURFACE IN COMING WEEKS, E.G., POSSIBLE VENEZUELAN OR COLOMBIAN INITIATIVES, AND COMMENT ON HOW WE MIGHT CAPITALIZE ON SUCH INITIATIVES, IF ANY, TO FURTHER OUR OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF MOVING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY STEADILY TOWARDS EFFECTIVE ACTION TO CONTROL INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UNGA RESOLUTIONS, HOSTAGES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE220490
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FJCRAWFORD:BKM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760336-1208
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760989/aaaacydd.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 USUN NEW YORK 3441, 76 BONN 14303, 76 STATE 196812
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG INITIATIVE REGARDING HOSTAGES
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, GE, US
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006